

Message Text

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65

ACTION DLOS-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-05 AGR-05 AID-05

CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 OFA-01 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-10 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSF-01 OES-03 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /111 W

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R 061730Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7863

INFO USMISSION USUN

AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

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USUN FOR LOS MISSION

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EFIS, EC, US

SUBJECT: PRESS COMMENTARY ON "PIRATE" FISHING VESSELS

REF: QUITO 8080

1. IN AN EDITORIAL ENTITLED "PIRATE FISHING" THE NOV. 6 EDITION OF THE QUITO DAILY, EL COMERCIO, CHARACTERIZES THE REPORTS OF "PIRATE" FISHING VESSELS IN ECUADOREAN WATERS (REFTEL) AS "PROVEN AND CONCRETE." THE PAPER REPEATS THE ACCUSATION THAT UNLICENSED AND TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED PIRATE ARE VIRTUALLY SWEEPING CLEAN WHOLE AREAS OF OCEAN CLAIMED BY ECUADOR, WHILE AVOIDING CAPTURE BY RADAR DETECTION OF APPROACHING ECUADOREAN SHIPS.

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2. EL COMERCIO LAMENTS THE FACT THAT THE FIELD IS LEFT

OPEN TO THE TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED FOREIGNERS BY THE OLD
AND PRIMITIVE ECUADOREAN FISHING FLEET AND URGES THE GOE
TO ACT TO DEVELOP A LARGE AND MODERN FLEET TO PROTECT
AND EXPLOIT THE COUNTRY'S FISHING RESOURCES.

3. MEANWHILE, THE NEWSPAPER COMPLIMENTS THE NAVY FOR ITS
VIGILANCE AND URGES EVEN GREATER EFFORTS TO KEEP
"PIRATES" OUT OF TERRITORIAL WATERS.

4. COMMENT: THE EMBASSY REGARDS IT REMARKABLE THAT EL
COMERCIO COULD CONFIRM FISHERMEN'S REPORTS OF PIRATES
AS "PROVEN AND CONCRETE" WHILE MAKING NO MENTION OF COM-
MENTS BY THE COMMANDER OF THE FIRST NAVAL ZONE THAT ALL
VESSELS CURRENTLY FISHING IN ECUADOREAN CLAIMED WATERS
ARE PROPERLY LICENSED. AS FAR AS WE KNOW NONE OF THESE
VESSELS CURRENTLY IN THESE WATERS IS US FLAG.
BREWSTER

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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